

**AQuESTT for Nebraska ... emPOWERED by Data Conference -- HAS GONE MOBILE!!**

Please remember to bring your electronic device. The Guidebook works with all operating systems for mobile devices.



1. From your mobile device app store, download the Guidebook app.
2. By April 23, NDE will email all registered participants the QR Code in order to download the Conference Guidebook .

**AQuESTT for Nebraska ... emPOWERED by Data - PRE-CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

If you have already registered for the conference, and are planning on attending the Pre-Conference Sessions, registration is now open by accessing the conference website at <http://ndeconference.education.ne.gov>.

**AQuESTT for Nebraska ... emPOWERED by Data**

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or [nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov))

The first ever **AQuESTT for Nebraska... emPOWERED by Data** conference will be held April 27 - 28, 2015 at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, Nebraska.

The new system for Nebraska is developing and the Accountability for a Quality Education System Today and Tomorrow (AQuESTT) process provides the framework for Nebraska Education.

The conference purpose is to provide district and Educational Service Unit (ESU) teams with an understanding of the emerging accountability system—AQuESTT, including the six tenets and related areas of focus along with the systems of support for Nebraska schools. In addition, information about the AQuESTT performance classification of public schools and districts and the designation of priority schools related to LB 438 will be provided along with a number of sessions that include the latest efforts in data use, tools, and training around the systems of support for Nebraska education.

Several pre-conference sessions will target specific audiences. A sampling includes a data collection NSSRS/CDC “boot camp,” Learning Forward professional learning, Career Education, and others.

Registration is now open at <http://ndeconference.education.ne.gov>.

**Who should attend?**

School districts and ESUs are encouraged to send teams to the conference to learn about key features of AQuESTT and about critical systems of support. Suggestions for team members include administrators, curriculum directors, special education directors, assessment coordinators, data stewards, school improvement team members, teacher leaders, and others involved in supporting the systems of education for every student, every day.



**Nonpublic Consultation for 2015-16 – NEW PROCESS – DUE DATE: May 1**

Contact: Diane Stuehmer (402-471-1740 or [diane.stuehmer@nebraska.gov](mailto:diane.stuehmer@nebraska.gov))

**Due in two weeks...Collections opened March 1 and are due to NDE by May 1.**

New process for completing consultations with nonpublic schools regarding equitable services for the 2015-16 school year. These two collections are now found in the NDE Consolidated Data Collection (CDC) for the following programs:

- Title I-A: Services for At-Risk Students
- Title I-C: Migrant
- Title II-A: Teacher and Principal Training
- Title III: Limited English Proficient
- Title IV-B: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers

Each of these collections will provide the public district forms to use when consulting with nonpublic schools regarding participation in the programs. Prepopulated forms are available for download by the public district to use when consulting with the nonpublic school(s). Upon completion of the consultation, the public district will enter the information from the forms into the appropriate collection in the NDE Consolidated Data Collection. Completed, signed forms will remain on file at the public district and may be requested by NDE at any time and/or reviewed during NCLB monitoring.

**The District's submission is not complete until the collection has been "Submitted" and "Approved" by the District.**

**Title I Nonpublic Consultation**

Every District receiving Title I funds and having resident low-income school aged students attending a nonpublic school will need to complete this collection. The public district is not required to complete or submit a Title I Nonpublic Consultation form for Rule 12 or 13 exempt status schools. A form will need to be completed for each Nonpublic system that has reported having students eligible for free or reduced lunch as reported in the Nonpublic Membership Report.

**Federal Programs Within Boundaries Nonpublic Consultation**

Every public school district in Nebraska that has one or more nonpublic systems located within the public school district's geographic boundaries must complete this form. It is the responsibility of the public school district to submit this completed form to the Nebraska Department of Education. A form will need to be completed for each nonpublic system geographically located within the public school district attendance area to document that the nonpublic system was consulted regarding potential participation in a federal program.



**SPED Proportionate Share Worksheet for Non-Public Schools – 2015-16**

**Open: April 13 - Due Date: July 31**

Contact : Rita Hammit (402-595-2092) or Pete Biaggio (402-471-4308) in the Office of Special Education

All school districts (including districts that do NOT have approved/accredited non-public schools or exempt home schools located within the district's jurisdiction) are required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to complete and submit the 2015-16 IDEA Proportionate Share application. This collection is found under the "Data Collection" Tab in the portal. This collection is based on the October 1, 2014 child count of eligible children with disabilities (ages 3-21) and represents the amount of IDEA funds that must be expended for eligible parentally placed children with disabilities in an accredited/approved nonpublic school or an exempt home school within the school district boundaries.

For additional information refer to NDE Technical Assistance Document, "Special Education Services to Children with Disabilities (ages 3-21) Enrolled by Their Parents in Non-public Schools" located at:  
<http://www.education.ne.gov/sped/technicalassist/ServicesNonpublicSchools.pdf>



**Title I Annual Participation Report Open: May 1 – Due Date: June 15**

Contact Diane Stuehmer – (402 471-1740 [diane.stuehmer@nebraska.gov](mailto:diane.stuehmer@nebraska.gov)) or Beth Zillig – (402 471-2452 [beth.zillig@nebraska.gov](mailto:beth.zillig@nebraska.gov))

*Collection completed by Public – ESU's only report ESU staff on part 2 of this report.*

ALL districts having Title I programs are required to submit this report. Please remember that the district needs to **Submit** and **Approve** the collection in the CDC (Consolidated Data Collection).  
There are 4 parts of this report: Title I Part A School-wide Programs and/or Targeted Assistance Schools; Title I Part A Funded Staff; Neglected/Delinquent; Homeless – Unaccompanied.



**Staff Reporting 2014-2015**

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or [nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov))

Staff Reporting 2014-2015 upload option opened April 3. Please **DO NOT** utilize this option unless you can upload all staff from the beginning of the school year with their original assignment(s) and add their new assignments, otherwise; the original data will be wiped out. The data downloads are available to download the staff data as you see it right now, you could download the file and make changes on the downloaded file and reupload, but that might be more work than using the online system (see below). REMINDER: if you upload all staff and some staff have left or been reassigned, report their original assignment with a completion date [Staff Position Assignments(14):Completion Date] and add a new assignment if appropriate. Do not delete the staff person or change their original assignment to the current assignment.

Recommended option: make small changes to individual staff using the online method to avoid losing data if you cannot replicate the original file and add the changes mentioned above. If staff have left or been reassigned, leave their original assignment and add completion date [Staff Position Assignments(14):Completion Date] to the assignment and add a new assignment if appropriate. Do not delete the staff person or change their original assignment to the current assignment.



**NeSA-RMS and NeSA-AA testing window**

Contact: Valorie Foy (402-471-2495 or [valorie.foy@nebraska.gov](mailto:valorie.foy@nebraska.gov))

The NeSA-RMS and NeSA-AA testing window started on March 23.  
The testing window will end on May 1.

On April 16<sup>th</sup> districts will have access to Preliminary NeSA-W Reports and Data Files on eDIRECT. Please review.



**Special Education Post-School Outcomes - Open: April 1 - Due Date: April 30**

Contact: Rita Hammitt ( 402-595-2092 or [rita.hammitt@nebraska.gov](mailto:rita.hammitt@nebraska.gov))

The report for submitting contact information for students who exited special education in **2013-14 school year** can be found on the NDE Portal under the Data Collection tab.

Please be sure to scroll down on the report to enter each student's contact information as indicated. It is very important the student contact information is accurate to assure your students will be contacted and included in this required collection and your district's Post School Outcome report. It may be necessary to gather some of the student contact information from student's resource teachers.

Please note this collection process has been enhanced to document the timely submission of the information as this collection is considered for each district's annual federally required "determination".

**HOW TO CONTACT THE NDE HELPDESK**

There are three ways to contact the NDE Helpdesk with questions.

**All three ways get to the same place, so please only use one of the following options.**

**If you send more than one request this may delay our response as we coordinate all requests.**

1. Submit a "Helpdesk Request" from your portal account. After logging into the NDE Portal, it is available in the upper right corner of the Collection Announcement page. This will be the fastest way to get your request to the NDE Helpdesk.

**OR**

2. Email: [nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

**OR**

3. Call Toll Free: 888-285-0556

**Please leave your full name, organization, call back number and a brief description of your question.**

ALSO: If you have contacted the NDE Program Staff person, please do not also contact the Helpdesk. Multiple contacts will delay the response.

**THANK YOU!**

**NDE Bulletin now available in RSS Feed**

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or [nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov))

We have added an RSS feed that users can subscribe to. Don't forget that the current and past NDE Bulletins can always be found at <http://www.education.ne.gov/ndebulletins/index.html>. The RSS feature can be found at the above webpage in the upper right hand corner (orange icon). RSS feeds can be used with Outlook and a number of web-based feed readers. At this time we will also continue to send the bulletin out via e-mail.

*Ginny Carter, Helpdesk Manager*

*Nebraska Department of Education - Data, Research and Evaluation*

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